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Security Council

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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire

Note verbale dated 9 March 2005 from the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire and has the honour to refer to his note in which he requests information concerning the steps taken by Costa Rica to implement the sanctions imposed by the Council through resolution 1572 (2004) of 15 November 2004.

In this regard, the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica has the honour to convey the following information:

Arms embargo

Costa Rica, which has no army and is not an arms producer, has not supplied, sold or transferred — whether directly or indirectly, from its territory or by its nationals, or using its flag vessels or aircraft — any type of arms or related materiel to Côte d'Ivoire. Nor has Costa Rica provided any assistance, advice or training related to military activities to any individual or entity in Côte d'Ivoire, or served as a transit point for the transfer of arms to Côte d'Ivoire.

Travel ban

Currently, any national of Côte d'Ivoire wishing to enter Costa Rica requires a consular visa issued with the express authorization of Costa Rica's Director-General for Migration and Aliens. Those who do not possess this visa are denied entry into the country.

Costa Rica's Directorate of Migration and Aliens and Ministry of Foreign Affairs maintain a current database of individuals included in the lists approved by the various subsidiary organs of the Security Council, including the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004). Visa applicants who appeared in the consolidated database would be denied a visa and prohibited from entering the country.

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Freezing of assets

Costa Rica's Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, which is responsible for overseeing the national banking system in conjunction with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, has provided all national banks in a timely manner with the lists of individuals and entities subject to sanctions approved by the various subsidiary organs of the Security Council. Thus far, no individual or entity included in the lists has been found to have accounts or assets in the national banking system.

It should also be noted that, in accordance with the country's constitutional principles, the freezing of any assets requires a decision by a competent judicial authority.